Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A color separation system for generating optical signals for display applications, comprising:

an optical illumination source operative to generate an optical beam;

a first optically refractive element operative to refract the optical beam to produce an optical spectrum;

a selection mechanism operative to separate the optical spectrum into a first optical signal of a first predetermined wavelength range and a second optical signal of a second predetermined wavelength range; and

a second optically refractive element operative to ~~temporally separate~~ collimate the first optical signal and the second optical signal.

2. (original) The color separation system of claim 1 further wherein said selection mechanism is further operative to separate the optical spectrum into a third optical signal of a third predetermined wavelength range.

3. (original) The color separation system of claim 2 wherein the first predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a red region of the optical spectrum, the second predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a green portion of the optical spectrum, and the third predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a blue portion of the optical spectrum.

4. (original) The color separation system of claim 1 wherein the optical spectrum is separated into more than three wavelength ranges.

5. (original) A color separation system for generating optical signals for display applications, comprising:

an optical illumination source operative to generate an optical beam;

a first optically dispersive element to generate an optical spectrum from the

optical beam;

a selection mechanism operated to separate the optical spectrum into a plurality of optical signals, each of the plurality of optical signals characterized by a predetermined wavelength range; and

a second optically dispersive element, wherein the plurality of optical signals are temporally separated.

6. (original) The color separation system of claim 5 wherein a first of the plurality of optical signals extends over a first wavelength range greater than a second of the plurality of optical signals.

7. (original) The color separation system of claim 6 wherein the first of the plurality of optical signals is a white light signal.

8. (currently amended) A method of generating optical signals for display applications comprising the steps of:

illuminating a first spectral dispersion element with a beam of light from a multispectral light source;

passing the beam of light through the first spectral dispersion element to produce a spatially dispersed optical spectrum;

separating the optical spectrum into a plurality of spectral components;

selecting a plurality of sub-beams from the plurality of spectral components;

passing the plurality of sub-beams through a second spectral dispersion element; and

generating from the sub-beams a plurality of ~~temporal~~ spatially collimated signals corresponding to said sub-beams.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein a first of the spectral components corresponds to a red region of the optical spectrum, a second of the spectral components corresponds to a green portion of the optical spectrum, and a third of the spectral components corresponds to a blue portion of the optical spectrum.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein said plurality of

~~temporal~~ spatially collimated signals is a train of optical pulses.

11. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the selection mechanism includes a first transparent opening characterized by a first linear dimension and a second transparent opening characterized by a second linear dimension, wherein the second linear dimension is greater than the first linear dimension.

12. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the first optical signal passes through the first transparent opening and the second optical signal passes through the second transparent opening.

13. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the selection mechanism includes a plurality of transparent openings, at least two of the plurality of transparent openings separated from an adjacent transparent opening by a portion of the selection mechanism that blocks the optical spectrum.

14. (new) The method of claim 5 wherein the selection mechanism includes a first transparent opening characterized by a first linear dimension and a second transparent opening characterized by a second linear dimension, wherein the second linear dimension is less than the first linear dimension.

15. (new) The method of claim 10 wherein the train of optical pulses are each characterized by a spectral bandwidth.

16. (new) The method of claim 8 wherein selecting a plurality of sub-beams comprises providing a wavelength selector disc including a plurality of transparent openings corresponding to a plurality of spectral bandwidths.